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P5500-CP1-C1

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application and entry of the Amendment are respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 3 to 11 are currently pending, claim 2 has been canceled, and claims 1, 3 and 7 have been amended.

The Office Action mailed April 30, 2004 addressed claims 1 to 11. Claims 1 and 8 were rejected, and claims 2 to 7 and 9 to 11 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claim 1 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Schenk (4,058,937). Claims 2 to 7 and 9 to 11 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner stated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Although Applicant respectfully disagrees, in an effort to hasten prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation of claim 2, which was objected to but the Examiner stated was allowable, and claim 2 has been canceled. Claims 3 and 7 were amended to depend from claim 1. Claim 8 depends from amended claim 1, therefore Applicant respectfully submits that claim 8 is allowable. Claims 2 to 7 and 9 to 11 depend, or ultimately depend, from amended claim 1, and are therefore also allowable.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 8 are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by Schenk. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney if it is deemed that a telephone conversation will hasten prosecution of the application.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of each of the presently objected and rejected claims, claims 1 to 11. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1 and 3 to 11, the claims currently pending.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 20, 2004

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